

Application No. 10800983 (Docket: CNTR.2073)
37 CFR 1.111 Amendment dated 06/21/2007
Reply to Office Action of 03/21/2007

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AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the section entitled "ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE" in its entirety and substitute the following section therefor:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~The present invention provides an apparatus~~ An apparatus and method for performing cryptographic operations ~~on a plurality of input data blocks within a processor/microprocessor.~~ In one embodiment, an apparatus for performing cryptographic operations is provided. The apparatus includes an instruction register having a cryptographic instruction disposed therein, keygen logic, a keygen unit, and an execution unit, and execution logic. The cryptographic instruction is received by a ~~computing device/microprocessor~~ as part of an instruction flow executing on the computing device/microprocessor. The cryptographic instruction prescribes one of the cryptographic operations, and also prescribes that a user-generated key schedule be employed when executing the one of the cryptographic operations. The ~~keygen logic~~ keygen unit is operatively coupled to the ~~cryptographic instruction register.~~ The ~~keygen logic~~ keygen unit directs the ~~computing device/microprocessor~~ to load the user-generated key schedule. The ~~execution logic~~ execution unit is operatively coupled to the ~~keygen logic~~ keygen unit. The ~~execution logic~~ execution unit employs the user-generated key schedule to execute the one of the cryptographic operations. The execution unit includes a cryptography unit.